



MONDAY EVENING, MAR. 28, 1898.

ACCORDING to the report of the Maine commission, the court could form no definite opinion of the condition of the wreck from the divers' evidence, from technical details of the wreckage the court "deduced" that a mine was exploded, and the court could not find evidence to fix the responsibility. And yet on such a report, there are many people in this country who advocate war with Spain, that would increase tenfold the sufferings of the Cubans, main or kill thousands of American citizens, and so enlarge the public debt as to make the taxes necessary to pay the interest on it, oppressive, if not unbearable, and which, if successful, would benefit nobody, not even the insurgents for whom it will be undertaken. Whether or not there be no laws in time of war, the experience of this country is to the effect that there is no sense in time of rumors of war. Before any thing further be done in the case of the Maine, that vessel should be raised, so that her whole hull shall be visible. Nothing in mechanical force is impossible now, and the cost of the raising of the Maine would be a bagatelle to that of war with Spain.

THE Philadelphia Record says "probably not ten people in the entire Southern Confederacy, outside of the military officials, were aware of what was going on behind the stockades of the prison camp at Andersonville." It is utterly impossible for Northern people to become correctly informed on any subject relating to the South. Everybody in the South, without as well as within the class of military officials, was perfectly aware of the condition at Andersonville, and the Southern newspapers were filled with accounts of it, and what is an indelible shame and reproach to the North, is that the horrors of that condition were fully and accurately portrayed to the U. S. government, which was asked to allow the South to buy the necessary food and medicine for the sufferers, or to permit them to be exchanged, but which positively refused to do either. "Humanitarianism" was not as popular in the North then as it is now.

FREE SCHOOLS were established to afford people too poor to send their children to school the means of doing so without expense. But that idea has long since been dissipated, and free schools are now availed of by rich people for the instruction of their children. The result, of course, has been to break up many private schools, to say nothing of other evil consequences. It has also been found that in cities in which free medicine dispensaries have been established, many people well able to buy drugs, obtain them on the public account, and spend the money they would have to pay for them in the purchase of liquor and other luxuries. Paternalism has good, but many evil consequences.

THE refusal of the legislature to change the existing election laws was perfectly right and proper, is proved by the action of the republican majority in Congress in turning fairly and legally elected democratic members from Virginia out of that body, in order to give their seats to republicans who were not elected. No matter what the laws may be or how efficiently they may be enforced, Virginia democrats have no chance in a republican House, and now that the chairman of the elections committee is a renegade from their own State, they have less than ever before.

SOME of the preachers in Washington yesterday held forth in favor of the heathen god of war, instead of the Christian God of peace and good will, in whose cause they profess to be engaged. They lifted up their voices and cried aloud for blood and iron, rather than for charity to all men. So keen set on war were they, that one of them said it should have been declared the day after the Maine explosion, and the investigation of that explosion been made afterwards, and for saying so they were applauded by their congregations.

MR. HOAR says the Senate has not degenerated; but another Senator rises on the floor of that body and says silent lips compel to speak, buries his face in his hands and bows his head upon his desk, and is led to the cloak room by his colleague. The bathos was grotesquely transparent, and even Mr. Hoar must have conceived the idea that his remark referred to was a very imprudent one. But the deterioration in the Senate is no more marked than in the whole body politic of the country.

THE Hawaiian annexationists are by no means pleased with the substitution of the Cuban scheme for theirs, just when they imagined the latter was on the eve of success. Their chance is now gone, for with a war with Spain in progress, this country will have neither men nor ships to be employed in depriving the Hawaiians of their

liberty, and putting them under the control of a few filibusters from the North.

THE ANNOUNCEMENT on one day that Fort Monroe is practically defenseless and that a foreign sergeant in the garrison who is familiar with all the plans of that fortress has disappeared; that the battleship Texas ran on a coral reef, is disabled and will probably have to go in the dry dock, and that the leading newspaper of France says in case of war between Spain and the United States the sympathies of the European governments will be with the former, are not conducive to the spread of the war spirit.

THE WAR flurry has been a great source of consolation to the advocates of the Dingley tariff bill, as they attribute to it the deficit in the revenue that naturally results from that bill. When the seas shall be swept by Spanish cruisers the customs dues will amount to little or nothing, and internal revenue and loans will be the main reliance for the requisite millions.

FROM WASHINGTON.

[Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.]

WASHINGTON, March 28.—There was no additional information at the Navy Department regarding the location of the Spanish torpedo boat flotilla now on its way to Puerto Rico from the Canaries, excepting that it was advancing steadily.

The United States note to Spain indicated that the situation in Cuba could not much longer be tolerated, and in detail recited the distressed conditions prevailing and the apparent inability of the present Spanish policy in Cuba to bring these conditions to a close. The Spanish answer is reassuring and furnishes a basis for lively hope that all differences may be adjusted on a basis satisfactory to this government.

The special Cabinet meeting which was called at 10:30 o'clock to-day was largely devoted to the reading of the President's message sent to Congress at noon. After the Maine report had been dispatched to the Capital some time was spent in the consideration of late messages from Minister Woodford. Although the details of these dispatches are not made public, it is known that they are reassuring in character and give a basis for the belief that the present strained relations may yet be satisfactorily relieved. It is reported that Spain is willing to make important concessions and to go so far as to withdraw her troops from Cuba on conditions which are more conciliatory than any hitherto received, and clearly indicate a purpose to avoid war even if it is to be made at the expense of making sacrifices never before considered. But notwithstanding these hopeful signs, the negotiations have not passed the danger point.

Concerning the reports of an armistice it can be stated positively that there will be no agreement on the basis of an armistice for eight months or any other period.

Commodore Horace Elmer was detached from Cramps shipyard to-day and ordered to duty "in re the Mosquito fleet." This auxiliary organization of the navy, to be called into active service, is to be composed of small crafts of all kinds that may be obtainable by the department upon which a gun may be mounted and other offensive devices placed.

One of the main points brought out by the testimony in the Maine case is that the battleship's position was not changed after she entered the harbor. She was moored to a buoy and remained there until blown up. The statement has been made repeatedly in the press that her position was changed the night before the explosion by the direction of the harbor master of Havana.

In the testimony in the Maine case sent to Congress to-day appears the following: Consul General Fitzhugh Lee appeared before the court on March 28th. His testimony related to the official formalities preceding the Maine's arrival.

On January 24 he received a message from the State Department, saying that the Maine would be sent to Havana on a friendly visit to receive the Cuban salute of naval relations between the two countries, and he was ordered to make arrangements at the palace for the interchange of official courtesies. After a call at the palace he sent the State Department a cipher message saying: "Authorities profess to think the United States is altering the regular status of the ship. It will obstruct autonomy and produce excitement and most probably a demonstration. Ask that it not be done till they can get instructions from Madrid. Say that if for friendly purpose as claimed, delay is unimportant." It was late, however, the Maine had already sailed. She arrived next day and Lee reported her arrival to the State Department.

In the House to-day Mr. Bixey of Virginia introduced the following: Bill for the relief of Annie S. Froebel and Elizabeth D. George county, Va. Mr. Otley of Virginia introduced the following: A bill for the relief of W. S. Hodges, for horse, bridle and saddle taken by the army in Halifax county in 1865, four petitions from Lynchburg against the same bill.

Congressman Otley of Virginia went to the Navy Department to-day and asked that schedules and proposals for plug tobacco be sent to each of the tobacco manufacturers in his district.

To show that Mr. Speaker Reed doesn't want to hurry action on the Maine report is proved by the fact of his appointment of no less than four members of the foreign affairs committee, to which that report has been referred, to attend the funeral of a dead member of the House, Messrs. Conins and Gillet, republicans, and Newlands and Berry, democrats.

Commander W. S. Schley left Washington last night for Fort Monroe and to-day took command of the squadron. Hampton Roads, making the Brooklyn his flag ship.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

The Princess de Joinville, wife of Prince Francis, of Orleans, died in Paris yesterday.

Capt. Sigbee, commander of the wrecked and ruined Maine, will arrive in Washington to-night from Havana.

The sealing steamer Greenland returned to St. Johns, N. F., on Saturday, her crew having met disaster on the ice floes in a blizzard in the North Atlantic. Twenty-five men perished, twenty-three are missing and sixty-six are terribly frostbitten.

Representative John Simpkins, of Massachusetts, died suddenly at 10:30 o'clock last night at his Washington residence, 1717 K. street. He had been ill for a few days with grip. Mr. Simpkins was thirty-five years old and a bachelor.

A dispatch from Lincoln, Neb., says: Nebraska proposes to place William J. Bryan in the gubernatorial chair by 50,000 majority at the coming election. This, they think, will force eastern democrats to help nominate him for the presidency in 1900.

Mrs. John Burke gave birth on Wednesday to triplets at her home at Princeton, N. J. All the children are girls and, with the mother, are doing well. About five years ago Mrs. Burke gave birth to triplets, all of which were boys, and all are now living.

Mrs. Delia Tudor Parnell, daughter of the American naval officer, Rear Admiral Charles Stewart, and mother of the late Charles Stewart Parnell, died last night at Avondale, Rathfriland, county Wicklow, Ireland, as the result of the burns received Saturday from the igniting of her clothing while she was sitting before a fire. She was eighty-nine years old.

THE MAINE REPORT.

The Associated Press has prepared the following complete abstract of the report of the court of inquiry which investigated the wrecking of the battleship Maine. This abstract is made from the report itself, access to which was obtained yesterday, despite official secrecy unparalleled in the handling of official papers.

The report is made up of eight parts, as follows:

First—The court finds that at the time of the explosion the Maine was lying in from five and one-half to six fathoms of water.

Second—The discipline aboard the ship was excellent; everything was stowed away, according to orders—ammunition, guns, stores, &c. The temperature of the magazines at 8 p. m. was normal except in the after 10-inch magazine, and that did not explode.

Third—The explosion occurred at 9:40 o'clock on the evening of February 15. There were two explosions, with a very short interval between them. The ship lifted on the first explosion.

Fourth—The court can form no definite opinion of the condition of the wreck from the divers' evidence.

Fifth—This part of the report contains technical details of the wreckage, from which the court deduces that a mine was exploded under the ship on the port side. The following facts in regard to the forward part of the ship are established by the testimony: At Frame 17 the outshell of the ship, from a point eleven and one-half feet from the middle line of the ship, and six feet above the keel when in its normal position, has been forced up so as to be now about four feet above the surface of the water; therefore about thirty-four feet above where it would be had the ship sunk uninjured. The outside bottom plating is bent into a reversed V shape (A) the after wing of which, about fifteen feet broad and thirty-two feet in length, is doubled back on itself against the continuation of the same plating extending forward. At Frame 18 the vertical keel is broken in two, and the flat keel bent into an angle, similar to the angle formed by the outside bottom plating. This break is now about six feet below the surface of the water, and about thirty feet above its normal position.

Sixth—The explosion was due to no fault of those on board.

Seventh—This section contains the opinion of the court stating that the explosion of the mine caused the explosion of the ship's two magazines.

Eighth—The court declares that it cannot find evidence to fix the responsibility.

The report is unanimous and is signed by all the members of the court. It does not refer to the existence or non-existence of mines in the harbor of Havana except in the specific finding that a mine was exploded under the ship and the opinion that the explosion of the two magazines was caused by the explosion of a mine.

The report as a whole, is a formal, dispassionate recital of facts and bears the stamp of that strict officialism which marks naval procedure. It is brief, not exceeding 1,800 words, and among the eight parts goes to the greatest length under the second heading, which deals with the discipline and order of the ship. This the court specifies with extreme minuteness, the least detail of the condition of everything on board being given.

The normal temperature of the large forward magazines at 8 o'clock—only an hour and forty minutes before the explosion—is said to dispose of the question of accidental combustion within these magazines. The court holds that these magazines did not explode from internal causes, but that the explosion of the mine under the port side of the ship caused them to explode. This will explain the remarkable destruction wrought, the explosion thus being shown to have combined the force of a mine without and two magazines within.

The finding that the ship lifted on the first explosion indicates an external source and one of tremendous power to be able to lift a battleship weighing thousands of tons.

The character of the wreckage, technically described in the fifth part of the report, from which the court deduces that a mine was exploded under the ship on the port side, sustains the view taken by some experts soon after the disaster that the force of the explosion was exerted from port to starboard.

The feature of the report of deepest interest to the navy is the complete exoneration of Capt. Sigbee and all who were on board the Maine.

The inability of the court to find evidence to fix responsibility makes the report extremely guarded in expression. Neither Spain nor the Spanish are mentioned in the document.

It is a great leap from the old fashioned doses of blue-mud and nauseous physics to the pleasant little pills known as Dr. Williams' Little Early Risers. They cure constipation, sick headache and biliousness. Charles G. Lannon.

VIRGINIA NEWS.

Mr. E. G. Brugh, formerly a member of the House of Delegates from Botetourt county, died on Saturday.

Mrs. Virginia Miller, who was accidentally shot by her husband on Friday, died on Saturday evening at 5 o'clock at their home near Winchester.

Mr. John H. Dinneen, having gone to Baltimore to reside, has resigned the position of State treasurer, which office he has held since Gen. Fitz Lee was Governor.

Mr. Addison Hansford, of King George, and Mrs. Ella M. Gordon, of Caroline were married Thursday at the home of the bride's brother, Mr. W. F. Stephens, in Spotsylvania county.

A pretty marriage took place at Montague Chapel, in King George county, Wednesday, the principals being Miss Susie Foster, daughter of Mr. L. M. Foster, and Mr. Abner Prier, both of King George.

Judge Holmes, in the county court of Mecklenburg, on Saturday sentenced Isaac Paylor, colored, to be hanged on the 20th of May next, for the murder of his wife Lula Paylor, on the 21st day of last January.

The State Board of Public Instruction will hold a meeting in Richmond next Wednesday to hear the plea of the history committee of the Grand Camp for the adoption of more impartial histories for use in the public schools of the State.

Mr. Julius Bear, one of Richmond's best known and most popular Jewish citizens, died Saturday evening at the Old Dominion Hospital, where he had been operated upon. Deceased was in the seventy-ninth year of his age. He was a native of Bavaria.

Preparations to lay submarine mines in the harbor at Old Point have been made. The cables, to which these mines will be attached, have already been placed in the waters of Chesapeake bay at Capes Henry and Charles, and the mines themselves can be attached in 24 hours to a network of wires extending from Cape Henry to Cape Charles and any number of torpedoes can be connected with them.

SPANISH AFFAIRS.

The general elections to the Spanish Cortes yesterday resulted in a decided victory for Premier Sagasta, the liberals winning about 300 out of the 432 seats.

A cablegram from Madrid states that the public there regards war as inevitable. The Spanish government, it is reported, has decided that it will neither accept a money offer for Cuba nor will it permit the "so-called friendly intervention" in Cuban affairs by the United States.

The defenses of Manila, Philippine Islands, have been strengthened with a view of guarding against a possible attack by sea.

M. Hanotaux, French minister of foreign affairs, stated in the Chamber of Deputies at Paris on Saturday that the United States and Spain are equally dear to France.

Gen. Maximo Gomez has written to the Cuban junta in New York saying that he is willing to pay Spain \$200,000 for Cuba's freedom if needed.

The Spanish minister called to see Assistant Secretary Day in Washington yesterday. There was also a conference of Cabinet officials at the White House.

The Spanish torpedo boat Audaz, which put into Waterford, Ireland, in distress, was badly damaged. Her companion boat, which parted from her in the hurricane, has not yet been reported.

The Rome correspondent of the Berliner Tageblatt telegraphs: The Marquis Vicenti Venosta, the Italian foreign minister, says the Cuban situation has grown worse, but that outside of Austria, which morally supports Spain for dynamic reasons, no European power is inclined to show practical sympathy for Spain.

A dispatch from Washington says: The administration is favorably considering representations made by the Spanish government in the hope of securing peace through diplomatic negotiations, the basis of these propositions being the acceptance by Spain of an armistice with the United States for the purpose of saving people in Cuba and the offer to the Cubans of a revised form of autonomy, during a proposed armistice. The President expects to see Cuba "practically free," and he hopes that some arrangement can be made which will be acceptable to the Cubans and still leave the Spanish flag flying over the islands, thus avoiding war.

In Madrid yesterday U. S. Minister Woodford said: The President desires peace between Spain and the United States and peace in Cuba. Ever since I was accredited I have worked by his direction and under his guidance, and I shall work so long as I am accredited. I have been a soldier and know the horrors of war, and today, as always, I pray that peace may continue between the land of Columbus and the land of Washington.

The Madrid correspondent of the London Times, noting that "Spain at present is playing a relatively passive part in the development of the situation," and contrasting the "warlike activity of the United States" with the "subdued and apparently inactive activity prevailing at Madrid," says: "The ministry, however, is eager to draw President McKinley's attention at the earliest moment to the report of the Spanish commission as to the Maine disaster, and it is understood that a messenger is going post-haste from Havana with the document, and will reach Washington probably on Tuesday. The government believes that the simultaneous presentation of the two reports to Congress would avert or at any rate mitigate any tempestuous display of feeling."

The Russian Novosti publishes an article which upbraids America for a "barbarous attempt to grab Cuba," and asserts that "all the European States sympathize with Spain, who, however, is doomed to carry on the struggle alone, as none of the powers has any immediate interest in the matter."

There is a rumor at Vienna of a proposal to submit the whole Spanish controversy to arbitration.

James W. Buchanan, a grand-nephew of the late ex-President Buchanan, was run down by a train and killed in the Pennsylvania Railroad yard, at Altoona, Pa., yesterday. The mangled remains were discovered by his wife, who left her house to search for him.

Thirty five years make a generation. That is how long Adolph Fisher, of Zanesville, O., suffered from piles. He was cured by using three boxes of Dr. Witt's Witch Hazel Salve. Charles G. Lannon.

TO-DAY'S TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

President's Message to Congress. WASHINGTON, Mar. 28.—The President to-day sent the following message to Congress:

To the Congress of the United States: For some time prior to the visit of the Maine to Havana harbor our consular representatives pointed out the advantages to flow from the visit of national ships to the Cuban waters, in customizing the people to the presence of our flag as the symbol of good will and of our ships in the fulfillment of the mission of protection to American interests, even though no immediate need thereof might exist.

Accordingly, on the 24th of January last, after a conference with the Spanish minister in which the renewal of visits of our war vessels to Spanish waters was discussed and accepted, the peninsula authorities at Madrid and Havana were advised of the purpose of this government to resume friendly naval visits at Cuban ports and that in that view the Maine would forthwith call at the port of Havana. This announcement was received by the Spanish government with appreciation of the friendly character of the visit of the Maine and with notification of intention to return the courtesy by sending Spanish ships to the principal ports of the United States. Meanwhile the Maine entered the port of Havana on the 25th of January, her arrival being marked with no special incident besides the exchange of customary salutes and ceremonial visits.

The Maine continued in the harbor of Havana during the three weeks following her arrival. No appreciable excitement attended her stay; on the contrary a feeling of relief and confidence followed the resumption of the long interrupted friendly intercourse. So noticeable was this immediate effect of her visit that the Consul General strongly urged that the presence of our ships in Cuban waters should be kept up by retaining the Maine at Havana, or, in the event of her recall, by sending another vessel there to take her place.

At 9:40 in the evening of February 15 the Maine was destroyed by an explosion, by which the entire forward part of the ship was utterly wrecked. In this catastrophe two officers and 261 of her crew perished, those who were not killed outright by her explosion being penned between decks by the tangle of wreckage and drowned by the immediate sinking of the hull. Prompt assistance was rendered by the neighboring vessels anchored in the harbor, aid being especially given by the boats of the Spanish cruiser Alphonso XII and the Ward Line steamer City of Washington, which lay not far distant. The wounded were generously cared for by the authorities of Havana, the hospitals being freely opened to them, while the earliest recovered bodies of the dead were interred by the municipality in a public cemetery in the city. Tributes of grief and sympathy were offered from all official quarters of the island.

The appalling calamity fell upon the people of our country with crushing force and for a brief time an intense excitement prevailed, which in a community less just and self-controlled than ours might have led to hasty acts of blind resentment. This spirit, however, soon gave way to the calmer processes of reason and to the resolve to investigate the fact and await material proof before forming a judgment as to the cause, the responsibility and, if the facts warranted, the remedy due. This course necessarily recommended itself from the outset to the Executive for only in the light of a dispassionately ascertained certainty could it determine the nature and measure of its full duty in the matter.

The usual procedure was followed, as in all cases of casualty or disaster to national vessels of any maritime State. A naval court of inquiry was at once organized composed of officers well qualified by rank and practical experience to discharge the onerous duty imposed upon them. Aided by a strong force of wreckers and divers the court proceeded to make a thorough investigation of the spot, employing every available means for the impartial and exact determination of the causes of the explosion. Its operations have been conducted with the utmost deliberation and judgment and while independently pursued no source of information was neglected and the fullest opportunity was allowed for a simultaneous investigation by the Spanish authorities.

The finding of the court of inquiry was reached after twenty-three days of continuous labor, on the 21st of March instant, and having been approved on the 22nd by the Commander in Chief of the U. S. naval force on the North Atlantic station was transmitted to the Executive.

It is herewith laid before the Congress, together with the voluminous testimony taken before the court.

Its purport is, in brief, as follows: When the Maine arrived at Havana she was conducted by the regular government pilot to buoy No. 4 to which she was moored to a depth of five and one-half to six fathoms of water.

The State of discipline on board and the condition of her magazines, boilers, coal bunkers and storage compartments are passed in review, with the conclusion that excellent order prevailed and that no indication of any cause for an internal explosion existed in any quarter.

At 8 o'clock in the evening of February 15 everything has been reported secure and all was quiet.

At forty minutes past nine o'clock the vessel was suddenly destroyed. There were two distinct explosions, with a brief interval between them. The first lifted the forward part of the ship very perceptibly; the second, which was more open, prolonged and of greater volume, is attributed by the court to the partial explosion of two or more of the forward magazines.

The evidence of the divers establishes that the after part of the ship was practically intact and sank in that condition a very few minutes after the explosion. The forward part was completely demolished.

Upon the evidence of a concurrent external cause, the finding of the court is as follows:

At frame 17 the outer shell of the ship, from a point eleven and one-half feet from the middle of the ship and six feet above the keel when in its normal position, has been forced up so as to be now about 4 feet above the surface of the water; therefore about 34 feet above where it would be had the ship sunk uninjured.

The outside bottom plating is bent in two a reversed V shape, the after wing of which, about 15 feet broad and 32 feet in length, (from frame 17 to frame 25) is doubled back upon itself against the continuation of the same plating extending forward.

At frame 18 the vertical keel is

broken in two and the flat keel bent into an angle similar to the angle formed by the outside bottom plates. This break is now about 6 feet below the surface of the water and about 30 feet above its normal position.

In the opinion of the court this effect could have been produced only by the explosion of a mine situated under the bottom of the ship at about frame 18 and somewhat on the port side of the ship.

The conclusions of the court are: That the loss of the Maine was not in any respect due to fault or negligence on the part of any of the officers or members of her crew;

That the ship was destroyed by the explosion of a submarine mine, which caused the partial explosion of two or more of her forward magazines; and

That no evidence has been obtained fixing the responsibility of the Maine upon any person or persons.

I have directed that the finding of the court of inquiry and the views of this government thereon be communicated to the government of Her Majesty, the Queen Regent, and I do not permit myself to doubt that the sense of justice of the Spanish nation will dictate a course of action suggested by honor and the friendly relations of the two governments.

It will be the duty of the executive to advise the Congress of this result, and in the meantime deliberate consideration is invoked.

WILLIAM MCKINLEY.

New Vessels for the Navy. SEATTLE, Wash., March 28.—A telegram from the Secretary of the Navy has been received by Moran Brothers telling them to complete the torpedo boat Rowan at the earliest possible moment. Under the contract the Rowan will have a speed of 30 miles an hour. It is fitted with three torpedo tubes.

PHILADELPHIA, March 28.—The gunboat Princeton, which is being built at Camden, is rapidly nearing completion. She will leave the shipyard in about a week to receive her fittings. The Princeton is not a large craft but is perfect in her appointments and admirably adapted to cruising in shallow waters.

BERLIN, March 28.—Lieutenant Commander Niblack, the U. S. naval attaché, has conditionally purchased for the U. S. government a protected cruiser building at Kiel for a South American government. He is considering the purchase of a vessel building at Hamburg.

From the Flooded District.

CINCINNATI, O., March 28.—At 10 o'clock this morning the river was sixty feet and four-tenths and was falling at all places above. The rain up the river was not sufficient to check the fall. No further serious damage will come from the additional rise.

MASCOUTAH, Ill., March 28.—The great levees 20 miles up the Kaskasia are expected to be swept away and many farmers are abandoning their homes in the lowlands. Between Fayetteville and St. Louis the Kaskasia is now about four miles wide and all overland traffic has been abandoned.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., March 28.—The Wabash and White rivers are on the rampage. In some portions of southern Indiana the Wabash is said to be 10 miles wide. Much live stock has been drowned and wheat all along the lowlands of Indiana's southern rivers has been destroyed.

Foreign News.

PEKIN, March 28.—The Chinese garrisons were withdrawn to-day from Port Arthur and Ta-Lien Wan, the Russians landing, and the Russian flag was hoisted at both places.

DUBLIN, March 28.—In connection with the centenary of the revolution of 1798 the police have searched the farmer's house in the counties of Limerick and Cork, taking possession of all firearms found and announcing that they will be returned after the celebrations.

LONDON, March 28.—The Earl of Strafford is dead. George Henry Charles Byng, third Earl of Strafford, was born in London in 1831. He had been Lord-in-waiting to the Queen, under Secretary of State for foreign affairs and under Secretary of State for India.

Shot His Daughters Betrayed.

SEATTLE, Wash., March 28.—M. F. Schelderup, a well-known insurance solicitor, was shot and killed yesterday by E. M. Bradley, a prominent contractor, on the corner of Third and Cherry streets, in the presence of a large crowd of theatricals. Schelderup was standing on the corner waiting for Miss Bessie Bradley with whom he was going to the concert at the theatre. Instead of being met by the young lady he was met by her father, who, without saying a word, drew a Colt's revolver and shot Schelderup through the body. Schelderup fell to the ground and expired in a few minutes. Bradley was arrested. At the station he would make no statement beyond saying that he shot Schelderup because he had ruined three of his daughters.

Mr. Gladstone Critically Ill.

LONDON, March 28.—The Westminster Gazette this afternoon, discussing the health of Mr. Gladstone, says: "It is no news to say that Mr. Gladstone's illness must necessarily be fatal in a comparatively short time. Mr. Gladstone is fully informed as to his condition. He asked the doctors to tell him the truth, and was thankful when informed that he had no chance of recovery. His life goes on quietly and evenly. Music is his chief solace."

From Cuba.

HAVANA, March 28.—The city of Havana is quiet and business is being conducted as usual.

At Villa Clara the autonomists did not vote at the election yesterday, and in many districts only a few persons voted.

The insurgents have been defeated in several skirmishes recently.

Fusion Ticket Adopted.

PORTLAND, Ore., March 28.—A fusion State ticket under the name of the people's democratic-silver republican party has been completed, headed by W. R. King, populist, for Governor. The "middle-of-the-road" populists who bolted the regular populist convention nominated a separate State ticket.

From Madrid.

MADRID, Mar. 28.—Senator Sagasta, the premier, declares the Spanish government has no sense note to the government of the United States on the subject of the relief of the Cubans. The official newspapers are somewhat optimistic in their references to the "solution of the Cuban difficulty," although they emphasize the opinion that the reconciliation of the far eastern question is unfavorable to Spain, "as diverting the attention of the European powers."

A torpid liver robs you of ambition and ruins your health. Dr. Witt's Little Early Risers clean the liver, cure constipation and all stomach and liver troubles. Charles G. Lannon.

TELEGRAPHIC BREVITIES.

The work of painting the battleships, unexpectedly stopped yesterday, will be resumed to-morrow. They will be painted a dark lead color instead of black.

Rich strikes of gold are said to have been made in creeks not far distant from Skagway port. The new finds have caused a stampede from Dawson, and hundreds of claims have been staked.

Mrs. Elizabeth Vannance, a widow 35 years of age, died of hydrophobia at home in West New Brighton, S. I., to-day. Mrs. Vannance was bitten in 28 spots on February 7 by a dog which ran amuck through the town, biting four other persons.

A destructive wind storm, accompanied by a heavy downpour of rain, struck Atlantic City, last night and sixteen dwellings were moved from their foundations. All streets are swollen and considerable damage is